

### IDENTIFICATION:

OVER SEASMANSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SHANGHAI VIA AMOY.  
(Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates  
for Ningbo, Choochow, Shanghai, TIENTSIN,  
HANKOW and Ports on the YANGTSE).

**T**HE Company's Steamship

"LABRETS,"  
Captain Seale, will be despatched as above  
TO-DAY, the 23rd instant, at Noon.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to  
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.  
Hongkong, 22nd December, 1884. (2393)

FOR SWATOW AND AMOY.

**T**HE Steamship

"CHI-YUEN"  
Capt. McCallin, will be despatched for the above  
PORTS TO-DAY, the 23rd instant, at NOON.  
For Freight or Passage—apply to  
RUSSELL & Co.  
Hongkong, 22nd December, 1884. (2394)

FOR SHANGHAI

**T**HE Steamship

"PEKING,"  
Captain G. Hearnshaw, will be despatched for  
the above PORT TO-DAY, the 23rd instant,  
at FOUR P.M.  
For Freight or Passage, apply to  
HARRISON, SMITH & CO.  
Hongkong, 22nd December, 1884. (2395)

FOR NEW YORK, VIA SUEZ CANAL.  
**T**HE Steamship  
 "WESTMEATH,"  
 Stonehouse, Commander, will be despatched for  
 the above Port, on SATURDAY, the 27th  
 instant, at FOUR P.M.  
 This Steamer has good Passenger Accommodation.  
 For Freight or Passage, apply to  
 ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,  
 Agents.  
 Glasgow, 22nd December 1894. [3396]

**OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.**  
**FOR LONDON, via SUEZ CANAL,**  
**The Company's Steamship**  
**"MENELAUS."**  
 Captain Nelson, will be despatched as above on  
**SUNDAY, the 28th inst.**  
 For Freight or Passage, apply to  
**BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents,**  
 Hongkong, 22nd December, 1884. (3232)

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**BANK HOLIDAYS.**

**I**n accordance with Ordinance No. 6 of 1875,  
 the Undermentioned Banks will be Closed

THURSDAY, the 26th (Christmas Day), and  
FRIDAY, the 27th instant (Boxing Day),  
For the CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,  
INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA,  
JOHN THURBURN,  
Manager, Hongkong.  
For the CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA,  
and CHINA,  
T. H. WHITEHEAD,  
Acting Manager, Hongkong.  
For the HONGKONG and SHANGHAI BANKING  
CORPORATION,  
T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager.  
For the COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTES DE PARIS  
et de BRUXELLES,  
J. ARNAUD,  
Agent.  
For the NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION  
LIMITED,  
H. H. TAYLOR,  
Manager, Hongkong.  
Hongkong, 23rd December, 1884. (2382)

by the *Engeström-Marr*, a splendid Assortment of Goods suitable for

**CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.**

Gentlemen's Fitted Dressing Cases.  
Photographic Albums in great Variety.  
Plush, Leather, and Satin Ladies' Bags.  
Carriage Cases, Fitted.  
Card Cases, Purses, and Pocket Books.  
Cases of Scissors—Necessaires.  
Toilet Cases, Work Boxes.  
Writing Desks. Tourist Cases.  
Christmas Books for Boys and Girls.  
Children's Picture Books.

**BON BONS**, all the latest Novelties.

Christmas and Invitation Stationery, New and Special Designs.

Caporals, Half: Caporals, Fragrant Vanity Fair, New Variety Fair, Old Judge.  
Special Attention is called to the very large Selection of inexpensive Novelties.

25] KELLY & WALSH, Queen's Road.

THE CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of this Company will be CLOSED from the 24th of the instant, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Directors, SAM'L J. GOWER, Secretary.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1884. [237]

HONGKONG AND CHINA GAS COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of this Company will be CLOSED from the 23rd instant until the 8th Proximo, both days inclusive.

HENRY E. H. MARTIN, Manager.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1884. [237]

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

IN accordance with Section 129 of the Articles of Association the GENERAL AGENTS, with approval of the Committee of the Office, will, on 1st January, 1885, ISSUE INTEREST WARRANTS of \$5 per SHARE payable at the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK, the said Warrants to be paid at 10% per Annum on the Paid-up Capital of the Office for the year 1884, and notice is hereby given that in order that the same may be paid the PAYABLE CAPITAL of the Office will be CLOSED from the 15th to 31st instant, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHEWSON & Co.,  
General Agents  
Canton Insurance Office, Limited,  
Hongkong, 15th December, 1884. [2345]

THE HALL & HOLTZ CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY.

NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRA-ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of THE HALL & HOLTZ CO-OPERATIVE COMPANY will be held at the Company's Office, Nanking Road, Shanghai, on TUESDAY, the 8th of JANUARY, 1885, at 12 O'CLOCK OF THE AFTERNOON, when one or more Special Resolutions will be proposed, having for their object the Registration of this Company under the Companies Act, 1862, and the TRANSFER of the Company with Liability Limited by Shares.

By order of the Board,  
W. W. CLIFFORD,  
Shanghai, 28th August, 1884. Secretary. [1860]



## NOTICE

A. S. WATSON & CO.  
FAMILY AND DISPENSARYCHEMISTS,  
By Appointment to His Excellency the Governor and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS

PERFUMES,  
(PATENT) MEDICINE VENDORS,  
DRUGGISTS' SUPPLIES,  
And  
"BRATED WATER MAKERS."

SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED

PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. Watson & Co., or  
HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed to "The Editor," and those on business to "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions will be continued until countermanded.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited.

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The local Banks are advertised to close for the transaction of public business on Christmas Day and Boxing Day, the 25th and 26th inst.

The steamer *Waglan* went over to the *Kowloon* yesterday, and the *Amoy* steamer *Yankee* will go over today.

The Hon. E. F. Low, Governor of California, and Mrs. and Miss Low are passengers for Hong Kong on the *Amoy* steamer *Marina* leaving here this afternoon.

The Messrs. Martin's steamer *Amoy*, with the mail outward from Hong Kong, left Saigon at 6 a.m. on the 21st inst. for this port via Saigon.

One thousand men have (it is stated) been picked out by His Excellency Yang Yulin from Canton, for service in Formosa.

We are requested to state that tomorrow being Christmas Eve, the practices of the *Chong Yee* will be held this evening, at half-past five instead of to-morrow.

The Agents (Messrs. James Matheson & Co.) have been informed that the *Amoy* steamer *Yankee*, from London, left Singapore on Sunday for this port.

The *Rising Sun* says that large quantities of cotton continue to arrive in Nagasaki from Shanghai, the unusual demand for which is created by the failure of the active crops.

The Agent informs us that the P. M. steamer *City of San Francisco*, with mails from San Francisco to the 22nd November, has arrived at Yokohama and will sail for this port to-day.

It is reported (says the *Courier*) that General Wu Ching-huang, who has been ordered to go to Korea to quell the disturbances there, will take with him 2,500 men, of whom 500 have already started from Port Arthur.

It is with regret (says the *Amoy* steamer) that we have to announce the death of Mr. John Ross, late second officer of the *Amoy* steamer *Yankee*, who died at the Kailashan Hospital at 8.30 a.m. on the 12th inst. His remains were interred at the Kailashan Cemetery on the 18th inst.

The E. and A. steamer *Amoy*, which arrived here yesterday from Australia ports, brought a full complement of 140 men from the Queensland and New South Wales troops, who are being sent to Korea. A burning desire is said to have been expressed among the Koreans to get rid of these unwelcome intruders, fanned, it is believed, by some outside influence. But, it may be asked, if the demonstration was merely intended against the Chinese, why did the Koreans subsequently attack the Japanese garrison, burn the Legation, and destroy the Post Office? We have said that there were three parties in Korea. The old pro-Chinese Ministry having been massacred, a new Ministry was appointed, the members of which had Japanese proclivities. The pro-Chinese party, in retaliation for the murder of their leaders, we presume, caused the assassination of seven of the members of the new Ministry, and making common cause with the old and anti-foreign party attacked the Japanese and drove them out of Seoul, thus obtaining a victory in their turn over their opponents. This is the most feasible explanation of the disturbances we can suggest; but they may have had a deeper significance and the rebels' plans may have included the overthrow of the King. After events will of course reveal the aims and motives of the conspirators, but the first movement was clearly not directed against the Japanese.

How far the conflict between the Chinese and Japanese soldiers may have influenced the subsequent proceedings of the mob, no one can say at present, but it would undoubtedly embolden the pro-Chinese party. And here again arises another question, whether the Chinese or Japanese troops were to blame for the outbreak of hostilities between them? In the absence of any reliable testimony as to which were the aggressors, positive judgment cannot be pronounced. The Japanese troops were, at the request of the King, in the Palace enclosure acting as a guard to His Majesty. The Chinese soldiers proceeded to the Palace also—presumably uninvited—because what reason is not stated. All that we are told is that an altercation arose between the rival garrisons—not an unusual result—and the Chinese, being refused admission, fired upon the Japanese, who responded by exploding a mine and blowing

up a dozen of their opponents. The result of the contest could not long remain in doubt, however, as the Chinese were about eight to one of the Japanese, and the latter had to their way out of the capital and make for the port of Chemulpo. This engagement between their troops, with its disastrous result, raises an awkward controversy between the Governments of China and Japan. The latter no doubt claims to be the injured party. Not only have many Japanese subjects been slaughtered in the Korean capital, but the large and valuable Russian buildings and guardhouses attached have been destroyed, causing a serious loss of property, while all Japanese subjects were compelled to fly from Seoul. On the face of it Japan has good cause for complaint, but she has so far shown a wise moderation. A joint commission consisting of officials of both countries has been appointed to investigate the causes of the collision between their respective troops in Seoul, and if the Chinese were in the wrong—as seems most probable—the Telling Government will doubtless make ample reparation. Japan might, if her officials in Seoul were in the right, have a reasonable ground for requiring the withdrawal or reduction of the Chinese garrison in Korea, and a formal recognition of the independence of the kingdom. Were they so disposed, the Japanese Government might give Peking a great deal of trouble, but they are not inclined, we believe, to press the Chinese Government at the present time, in spite of the influence of certain Powers which is reported to have been exerted to induce Japan to assume an aggressive attitude. It is quite comprehensible that the French and Russian Governments—and especially the former—should hope and endeavour to create a breach between China and Japan, as such a quarrel would embarrass the Peking Government and materially weaken their hands. Russia also has her interests to serve. She would be ready not only to observe a most benevolent neutrality, but might also be willing to lend assistance, at a price, to Japan in the event of a struggle between that country and China. But Japan will best consult her own interests by not allowing herself to be dragged into the Franco-Chinese quarrel, for nothing she could gain in Korea would recompense her for the expense of a war with China and the still worse consequences of the lasting enmity it would create between herself and her nearest neighbour.

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up a dozen of their opponents. The result of the contest could not long remain in doubt, however, as the Chinese were about eight to one of the Japanese, and the latter had to their way out of the capital and make for the port of Chemulpo. This engagement between their troops, with its disastrous result, raises an awkward controversy between the Governments of China and Japan. The latter no doubt claims to be the injured party. Not only have many Japanese subjects been slaughtered in the Korean capital, but the large and valuable Russian buildings and guardhouses attached have been destroyed, causing a serious loss of property, while all Japanese subjects were compelled to fly from Seoul. On the face of it Japan has good cause for complaint, but she has so far shown a wise moderation. A joint commission consisting of officials of both countries has been appointed to investigate the causes of the collision between their respective troops in Seoul, and if the Chinese were in the wrong—as seems most probable—the Telling Government will doubtless make ample reparation. Japan might, if her officials in Seoul were in the right, have a reasonable ground for requiring the withdrawal or reduction of the Chinese garrison in Korea, and a formal recognition of the independence of the kingdom. Were they so disposed, the Japanese Government might give Peking a great deal of trouble, but they are not inclined, we believe, to press the Chinese Government at the present time, in spite of the influence of certain Powers which is reported to have been exerted to induce Japan to assume an aggressive attitude. It is quite comprehensible that the French and Russian Governments—and especially the former—should hope and endeavour to create a breach between China and Japan, as such a quarrel would embarrass the Peking Government and materially weaken their hands. Russia also has her interests to serve. She would be ready not only to observe a most benevolent neutrality, but might also be willing to lend assistance, at a price, to Japan in the event of a struggle between that country and China. But Japan will best consult her own interests by not allowing herself to be dragged into the Franco-Chinese quarrel, for nothing she could gain in Korea would recompense her for the expense of a war with China and the still worse consequences of the lasting enmity it would create between herself and her nearest neighbour.

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